

### REMARKS

Favorable consideration of the amended application is requested. It is believed that U.S. Patent No. 6,279,347 to Webster et al., cited by the Office in the pending Action, neither teaches nor suggests an orthopedic composition comprising a homogeneous mixture of a biocompatible polymer, a bioactive particulate ceramic – with the ceramic having an average particle size of not more than about 500 nm – and one or more growth factors, wherein said growth factor is present in an amount of no more than about 5 weight percent.

Respectfully submitted:

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